

**From:** [350EUG Coordinator](mailto:coordinator@350eugene.org)  
**To:** [PUC\\_puc.publicmeetings \\* PUC](#)  
**Subject:** PUC Testimony on NWN rate increase  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 16, 2024 1:58:09 PM

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I would like to read my testimony at this evening's PUC meeting. If that is not possible, please accept my written testimony for your records. My apologies for missing the 24hour lead time for submission.

Thank you for the work that you continue to do in the public interest.

*Linda Kelley*  
*Coordinator, 350 Eugene*

Chair Decker and Commissioner Tawney, thank you for the opportunity to testify today.

My name is Linda Kelley and I currently volunteer with 350 Eugene whose focus is on climate problems and solutions. I have formally worked with Bay Area Air Quality Mgmt District in their Source Testing Lab.

I am testifying today to request that the Commission reject the utility's efforts to use rate payer dollars in support of their investments in projects like renewable natural gas and green hydrogen. While there can be some limited use for these operations, they must not include any expansion of the gas system.

Fossil fuel investments are not in the public interest and the financial risk to ratepayers is quickly becoming well recognized. The head of the EU environmental Agency, the European Central Bank and our US Treasury Secretary have all warned of growing potential of systemic financial shock due to unjustified valuations of fossil fuel stock and the costs of disasters due to a rapidly changing climate.

The fossil fuel industry like all businesses must be able to adapt or perish in an American economy. There are projects currently in

development and in operation that offer another pathway for their business participation.

Repurposing gas lines to carry geothermal energy in neighborhoods and acting as conduit for some larger long distance electrical lines with the added benefit of protection from forest fires. Our Building resilience Bill package from 2023 will create mandates and incentives for clean sourced energy efficiency

Meta and Google, who combine ambitious climate commitments and ravenous demand for electricity to run their data centers, are beginning to favor geothermal energy for safe base-load abundant electricity.

The climate mandate and financial opportunities exist. Please ensure that you create the rules that will further insure that the fossil fuel industry will leave behind a culture of denial and move forward and find a place in the new energy economy.

Thank you for accepting my testimony.